

CONNECTICUT'S STATE BUDGET

In the midst of the worst national economic downturn and most severe state budget deficit in recent memory, the Connecticut General Assembly passed a budget for Fiscal Years 2010 and 2011 that fails to responsibly address this fiscal crisis.

For months, legislative Republicans called for swift and decisive action to address our state budget deficit, but our calls fell on deaf ears.

We believe that this crisis provided an opportunity to reinvent state government to better provide for its citizens at a lower cost. Our state government is just too big and too expensive. So, we proposed a number of common-sense solutions to streamline operations, increase efficiency and trim the fat in Hartford, all while avoiding tax increases.

Regrettably, majority party leaders instead opted to balance the budget by relying entirely on tax and fee increases, borrowing, and one-time infusions of cash from the Rainy Day Fund and federal government. Because these one-time payouts will not exist in the years ahead, our structural deficit has only been temporarily postponed. In fact, the state's non-partisan Office of Fiscal Analysis has already projected a combined \$9 billion deficit for 2012, 2013 and 2014.

That said, there are some positives to report. Education funding was maintained based on 2009 spending levels and many important social services were also maintained. Despite these few bright spots, had the majority party chosen to reinvigorate our state's economy with business-friendly policies and by avoiding tax increases, I believe we would have seen a significant increase in the size of the tax base and avoided a continuation of businesses and individuals leaving our state for more friendly ones.

I am optimistic that there are opportunities ahead to reverse these harmful policies. I will continue to do all I can to work for a responsible state budget that provides the high quality of life Connecticut residents deserve at a cost we can afford.

Sen. Frantz discusses the state budget on Cablevision's *Meet the Leaders* with David Smith.



Sen. Frantz talks with Connecticut Radio Network at the start of this year's legislative session.



How to Reach Me:

Senator L. Scott Frantz
Legislative Office Building
Room 3400
Hartford, CT 06106 - 1591

1-800-842-1421

TTY 860-240-0163

(text telephone for the hearing impaired)

Scott.Frantz@cga.ct.gov

www.SenatorFrantz.CGA.CT.GOV



STATE SENATOR
L. SCOTT FRANTZ
Greenwich ★ New Canaan ★ Stamford

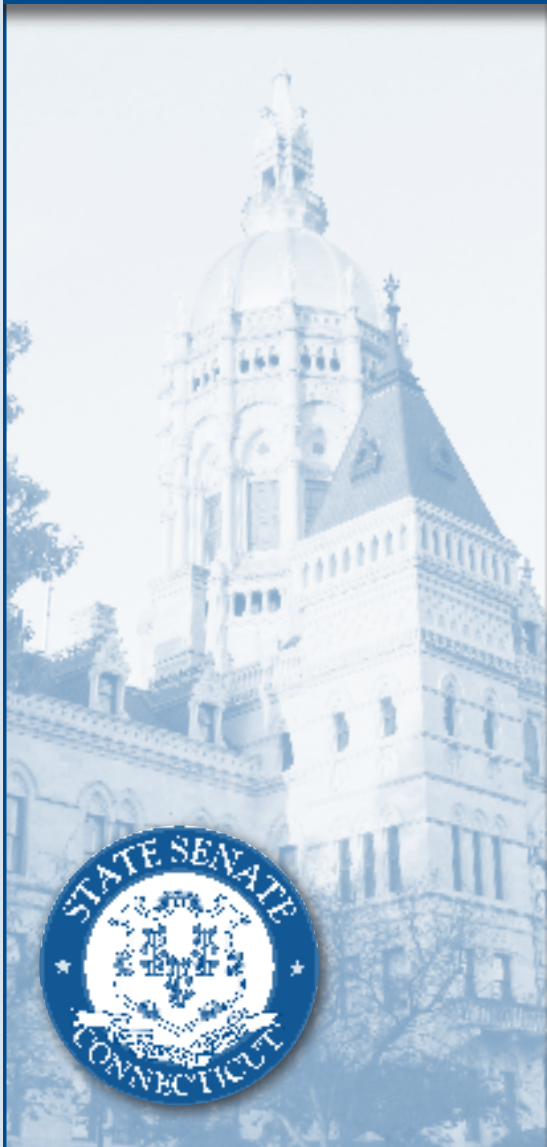
PRSRT STD
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit # 3937
Hartford, CT
06106

STATE SENATOR

L. SCOTT FRANTZ

★★★ 36TH DISTRICT ★★★

2009 LEGISLATIVE REPORT



SERVING THE PEOPLE OF:
Greenwich ★ New Canaan ★ Stamford

STATE SENATOR
L. SCOTT FRANTZ

Dear Friend,

It is both an honor and a privilege to serve you and the communities of Greenwich, Stamford and New Canaan. In this pamphlet, I provide a brief update on several of the issues I have been working on in the state Senate.

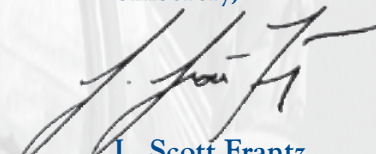
As always, I encourage you to contact me with any questions, concerns or feedback you have regarding state government. Please feel free to call my office at 800.842.1421, email me at Scott.Frantz@cga.ct.gov, or write to me at:

State Senator L. Scott Frantz
Legislative Office Building
Room 3400
Hartford, CT 06106

I also encourage you to visit my website www.SenatorFrantz@cga.ct.gov. There you can read news archives, watch video of Senate floor debates and press conferences, participate in an interactive blog and sign up to receive email updates.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve as your representative in Hartford.

Sincerely,


L. Scott Frantz
State Senator



STAY INFORMED:
Visit my website
SenatorFrantz.cga.ct.gov
for news, video,
updates, events and more.

2009 LEGISLATIVE ACCOMPLISHMENTS

GIVING CONNECTICUT A COMPETITIVE EDGE

In state government, as in any well-run business, I believe it is important to constantly evaluate and assess productivity and performance, especially during tough economic times. I also believe in keeping things transparent and simple. This is why I co-sponsored legislation to help the state keep better track of its own performance.

Public Act 09-233, An Act Concerning International Commerce requires the Department of Economic and Community Development to put together a concise, user-friendly annual report that examines the economic competitiveness of Connecticut as it relates to job creation and business growth. The annual report will include:

- An analysis of how Connecticut's programs and policies are affecting the state's business climate
- Data on how other states are working to improve economic competitiveness
- Recommendations on how to improve Connecticut's business climate

There is no doubt Connecticut will emerge from this recession. When we do, it is critical that state government takes an active role in fostering economic growth and job creation. This report will help guide that effort.



Sen. Frantz at the ribbon cutting for the digital animation company Blue Sky Studios in Greenwich.



Sen. Frantz named a 2009 Children's Champion by the Connecticut Early Childhood Alliance.

EXPANDING INSURANCE COVERAGE FOR AUTISM

Thousands of Connecticut families and individuals dealing with autism and Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD) face numerous challenges. Paying excessively for treatment should not be one of them. Because of the lack of insurance coverage, the costs associated with getting necessary treatments can be unaffordable for some families. This year, the legislature took steps to reverse this.

I am proud to have co-sponsored Public Act 09-115, An Act Concerning Health Insurance Coverage for Autism Spectrum Disorders. The law provides insurance coverage for the diagnosis and treatment of ASD, as well as some medications and psychological treatments.

EMERGENCY MEDICAL CARE FOR STUDENTS

A day at school can bring all sorts of challenges to a child. But when a child suffers from asthma or severe allergic reactions to foods like peanuts, the results can be life-threatening. I am proud to have co-sponsored Public Act 09-155, An Act Concerning the Use of Asthmatic Inhalers and Epinephrine Auto-Injectors. This law removes some of the stress for these students and families by allowing the student to self-administer his or her inhaler or epinephrine auto-injector in case of an emergency.

Before this law was passed, when a student had an asthma attack or allergic reaction, they had to see the school nurse or another authorized administrator for access to their medication, wasting critical time. Now, a parent or guardian simply has to give the child permission to carry their own medication. The law also requires schools to publish response plans for students with life-threatening food allergies and to update those plans each year.



Sen. Frantz looks on as Gov. Rell signs An Act Concerning the Use of Asthmatic Inhalers & Epinephrine Auto-Injectors into law at the Hamilton Avenue School in Greenwich.

SAFE RIDES

The Safe Rides program was established in 1982 and operates as part of the Greenwich chapter of the American Red Cross. The program, staffed mostly by teen volunteers, provides rides to those who find themselves in "at-risk" situations – no questions asked. It is an exemplary program that offers safety and security while teaching responsibility and leadership to the volunteers.

Due to a previously enacted law that limited the number of passengers in a vehicle, volunteer drivers aged 18 and younger were not permitted to drive for the program. This year, the Greenwich delegation pushed for an exemption to allow teens volunteering with the Safe Rides program to continue their important work. The measure passed as a part of Public Act 09-187, An Act Concerning the Functions of the Department of Motor Vehicles.

For more on the Safe Rides program, visit www.greenwichredcross.org.